

E-Therapist Bulletin

Division of Developmental Disabilities

April 2011

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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program of activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible.

To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact the Division of Developmental Disabilities ADA Coordinator at (602) 542-6825; TTY/TTD Services: 7-1-1.

Missed Appointments Clarification

There continues to be a lot of misinformation in regards to missed appointments.

Missed appointments can be made up at the discretion of the family and the therapist but the therapist must follow the frequency noted on the prescription. If the prescription says one hour a week, the missed appointment must be made up that week only. If the prescription says two hours a week, the missed appointment must be made up that week only. If the prescription says one hour a month, the appointment must be made up in that month only. If the family and therapist feel strongly that the child has regressed and the missed appointment (s) must be made up, the family needs to get a prescription reflecting the extra hours. If the child is in the AzEIP program, the therapist must follow the frequency set forth in the IFSP.



Arizona Physical Therapy Association's Spring Conference will be held May 6th and 7th at the Fiesta Resort Conference Center at 2100 South Priest Drive in Tempe, AZ. For a link to the conference information, please go to www.aptaaz.org and click on the link that says Upcoming Events.

Please share this bulletin with your staff/others who do not have access to the e-mailed copy. Once sent out to providers, this e-Therapist Bulletin is available on the DDD website. Click on News & Events for all Division Newsletters and Bulletins.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Therapy Provider Search Website is NOW ready to use



The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has been working over the last six months to develop a website that consumers and families may use to search for providers of occupational, speech and physical therapy services. It is anticipated that this search tool will allow consumers and families to identify available therapists in their geographic area. This interactive search tool will not change the method for selecting a provider. The Division will still adhere to the process for selecting a provider outlined in A.A.C. R6-6-2107 as implemented by the district in which the consumer resides.

The site can be found on the main DDD website www.azdes.gov/ddd, click the link on the left side titled "Find a DD Service Provider."

The email registration process is easy for families to use however, the user must have an email address. If you have any questions, please contact Miriam Podrazik at 602-542-6962.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THERAPISTS

THE DIVISION WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THERAPISTS WHO ARE WORKING HARD ON THEIR WRITTEN HOME PROGRAMS IN THE QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS. WRITTEN HOME PROGRAMS ARE GETTING MORE SPECIFIC FOR FAMILIES/CAREGIVERS TO FOLLOW DURING DAILY ROUTINES. CHILDREN MAKE THE MOST PROGRESS WHEN FAMILIES/CAREGIVERS FOLLOW THE HOME PROGRAM EACH DAY AND PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES DURING GENERAL ROUTINES OF THE CHILD/FAMILY. FAMILIES HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SERVICES. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!



The First Things First Early Childhood Therapist Incentives Programs has two components: Loan Repayment and Stipend. The purpose of these programs is to provide incentives for Speech/Language Pathologists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Child Psychologists, and Mental Health Specialists who provide early childhood development services to children, up to age 5, in specified areas of Arizona as determined by the First Things First (FTF) regional councils. Currently, the regional councils participating in the FTF Incentives Programs are Cochise County, Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT), Gila County, Graham/Greenlee Counties, North Pima County, Northwest Maricopa County, Santa Cruz County, South Phoenix, and Yuma County. Click on the website at www.azftf.gov for more information.

The Arizona Early Intervention Program

DES, as the Lead Agency for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), is seeking public comment on Arizona's proposed 2011 Application for Federal Funds and proposed revisions to early intervention policies. Policy areas issued for comment and a summary of the changes can be found on AzEIP's website, www.azdes.gov/azeip, and include: (1) Application for Federal Funds for FFY 2011; (2) Chapter 3, Early Intervention Services; (3) Chapter 7, Procedural Safeguards; (4) Chapter 9, Financial Matters; and (5) Overview of the Application and Proposed Policy Changes.



Eating is instinctual only for the first month of life

The POPSICLE Center is a group of parents that realize when mealtimes aren't going well for infants and young children, it is cause for concern and very stressful for families. Mealtimes should be opportunities for bonding and should foster positive relationships between children and their families. Most people believe eating is instinctual, however, that is only true for the first month of life. For some infants and children, feeding is a painful, not pleasurable, experience. The smell, taste, texture, and even presence of food may cause anxiety, food selectivity or food refusal. Often this is expressed through head turning, gagging, choking, coughing, or vomiting. In extreme cases, some children struggling to eat may need feeding tubes to provide or supplement their daily nutritional needs.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide educational tools and resources that serve the needs of children with feeding difficulties, their families and the professionals who work with them.

For more information, go to www.popsiclecenter.org



Mealtime Connections, LLC brings together a group of professionals who are passionate about understanding and treating infants and young children with complicated eating issues. We partner with families to discover the child's strengths and weakness and construct strategies that will foster trust and confidence in children with these special issues. In our experience, we have found this partnership to be essential in creating enjoyable, safe and healthy mealtimes.

Mealtime Connections provides two types of workshops to meet our clients' needs: Large 2 day workshops and smaller 1.5 to 2 hour workshops. You may register for all workshops on-line or by fax.

Full Two-day Workshop:

September 23 & 24, 2011, Tucson, AZ

Mealtime Miseries: Management of Complex Feeding Issues

Elizabeth Clawson, MS, Ph.D., LCP, HSPP; Carol Elliott, B.S., OTR/L

Contact Sara at (520)-829-9635 for more information

Local CE Opportunities:

Mealtime Connections is offering short 2 hour in-service training in the area of feeding. Each session costs \$15 and will be held at 3:30 pm at Mealtime Connections Oracle Road location. If a location change is needed for space, you will be notified of the change in advance.

If you have specific questions, please contact Katie Lister, Program Manager, at Mealtime Connections (520) 829-9635.

Collaborative Therapies Conference

Phoenix Children's Hospital
Mel Cohen Conference Center

Saturday, May 7, 2011

8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Free for Parents of Children Birth to Five



Presented by professionals and parents of children with special health needs

Developmental Pediatrician

- ♦ How to work with your doctor
- ♦ Child development (cognitive, language, fine/gross motor, self-help, social/emotional)

Speech & Language Pathologist

- ♦ How to recognize & encourage communication, including baby sign language

Physical Therapist

- ♦ Interactive and hands on therapy techniques

Occupational Therapist

- ♦ Defining Sensory Integration, playful activities

Breakfast and lunch included. Spanish translation will be available. Due to space limitations and no child care, adults only should attend. Please register by contacting Raising Special Kids at 602-242-4366 or www.raisingpecialkids.org at our event calendar.

Where to Send Quarterly Therapy Progress Notes



Therapy providers must provide current progress reports including the specific home program to the **Division, the family and the physician** for requests to be considered or reauthorized. A sample format of the quarterly report and evaluation is attached to this e-bulletin. All fields in the reports must be filled out, including the start date of therapy.

For District I, email to: DDDD1ProviderReports@azdes.gov

Carmen Sheets-602-246-0546

For District II, email to: DDDD2ProviderReports@azdes.gov

Alta Gasque-520-519-1711 x 1133

For Northern/District III, email to: DDDD3ProviderReports@azdes.gov

Tobie Bardsley-928-773-4957

District IV Southern Arizona-Alta Gasque-520-519-1711 x1133 Fax-520-748-8765

District V-Peggy Lopez 520-723-2636 Fax-520-723-7618

District VI-Linda Southwell—928-428-0474 x 1140 Fax-928-348-7725

Please include the Support Coordinator's name and/or office in the subject line of the email. Without the subject line information, there will be a delay in the delivery of reports to the appropriate staff person. Emails must be secured before sending. **If you have any questions, please call or email your local Therapy Coordinator.**

District I Submittal of Progress Reports and Evaluations

All reports are submitted from providers by one of two ways: To the assigned, secure e-mail address or through the US mail. All submittals are checked daily by assigned office representatives who have three days to get the reports to the Support Coordinators. If a Support Coordinator indicates they did not get the report please direct them to their office representatives who will keep the reports for 90 days. For dissemination be sure to clearly indicate the Support Coordinator and/or office on each consumers' report. Large attachments or multiple consumers' reports in one document make it difficult to open and then disseminate to the individual Support Coordinators. Please do not attach large files to emails.

Please use this link when e-mailing progress reports:

https://secure.azdes.gov/secure_contact_us/

When you open the link, you will see a screen, enter Provider Report e-mail address: Dddd1providerreports

On the subject line, indicate the Support Coordinator's name and office name, for example:

Subject line - **North Office, Support Coordinator (name)**

If you do not know the current Support Coordinator's name, please indicate the **Office** of the last Support Coordinator and we will ensure the progress report is given to the current Support Coordinator.

Hardcopy progress reports are sent via U.S. Postal Mail and are addressed to:

Alisia Sotelo, DDD

1789 West Jefferson St., 4th Floor

Site Code 791A

Phoenix, AZ 85007